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Agenda item 20 (b)
Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: special economic assistance to individual countries or regions

Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Brazil, Cape Verde, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Fiji, France, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Italy, Jamaica, Mexico, Namibia, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Senegal, Solomon Islands, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, United States of America and Venezuela: draft resolution

Emergency assistance to countries affected by hurricanes Jose and Lenny

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/1 B of 5 October 1999 and other relevant resolutions under the agenda item entitled "Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations",

Deeply distressed at the damage caused by hurricanes Jose and Lenny and the grave effects on the people, infrastructure and the productive sectors of the economies of Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, Grenada, the Netherlands Antilles, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and several other countries and territories of the region,

Deeply concerned at the frequency and unpredictability in the recurrence of these natural disasters, which seriously undermine the capacity of these countries to achieve sustained development,

Also concerned that hurricanes and other natural disasters exacerbate the effect of sea level rise, loss of biodiversity, and the destruction of land resources and marine and coastal zones,

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Mindful of the vulnerability of the natural environment and infrastructure of these countries to the effects of these disasters and the new challenges which they present to the efforts of the affected countries and territories to preserve their economic viability and insurability,

Conscious of the efforts of the Governments and peoples of Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, Grenada, the Netherlands Antilles, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and several other countries and territories of the region to restore infrastructure and rehabilitate productive sectors, particularly agriculture and tourism,

Also conscious of the efforts of the Governments and peoples of the affected countries and territories of the region to save lives and alleviate the sufferings of the victims of the hurricanes,

Noting the enormous effort that will be required to rebuild the affected areas and to alleviate the grave situation caused by these natural disasters,

Recognizing that the magnitude of the disasters and the medium-term and long-term effects will require, as a complement to the efforts being made by the peoples and Governments of the affected countries, a demonstration of international solidarity and humanitarian concern to ensure broad multilateral cooperation in order to meet the immediate emergency situation in the affected areas and to initiate the process of reconstruction and rehabilitation,

1. *Notes* the efforts of the Governments of Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, Grenada, Netherlands Antilles, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and Grenadines and several other countries and territories of the region;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to all States of the international community, international agencies and non-governmental organizations that are providing emergency relief to the affected countries;

3. *Urges* all States of the international community, as a matter of urgency, to contribute generously to the relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts in the affected countries and to provide financing for the national and regional relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts being undertaken by the affected countries;

4. *Urges* the bodies and agencies of the United Nations system and the international financial institutions to assist Governments in their rehabilitation and redevelopment efforts, taking into account their vulnerability to natural disasters;

5. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations and agencies of the United Nations system and other multilateral organizations to assist in the strengthening of national and regional capacity for disaster preparedness, planning, mitigation and reconstruction, including early warning systems;

6. *Further calls upon* the relevant agencies and bodies of the United Nations system as well as regional bodies to assist the States and territories of the Caribbean region in convening, when possible, a workshop for building national and regional capacity in disaster preparedness and disaster management;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to it at its fifty-fifth session, under the agenda item entitled "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations" on the collaborative effort referred to in the present resolution, and on the progress made in the relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts of the affected countries;

8. *Also requests* that the Secretary-General include in his report to the General Assembly information on the linkages between implementation of the present resolution and implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States[1] and the outcome of the twenty-second special session of the General Assembly on the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action.[2]

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[1] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April-6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[2] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-second Special Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/S-22/9/Rev.1).